ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE ANNEXES TO THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

CLAIMS

1. Using neurotoxic substances in preparing an agent treating joint pain.

2. Application as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the neurotoxic substances are predominantly toxic to pain-conducting (nociceptive) nerve fibers.

3. Application defined in either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the neurotoxic substances are selected from that group which is toxic to axons and the nociceptive nerve endings.

4. Application as claimed in one of claims 1 through 3, characterized in that the neurotoxic substances are less neurotoxic to motor and propioceptive nerve fibers than they are to sensitive nerve fibers.

5. Application as claimed in one of claims 1 through 4, characterized in that the neurotoxic substances are local anesthetics or mixtures of several local anesthetics.

6. Application as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the local anesthetic is used jointly with an acidic additive lowering the pH value.

7. Application as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the additive is a bisulfite, preferably sodium bisulfite ($NaHSO_3$).

38. Application as claimed in one of claims 1 through 37, characterized in that the neurotoxic substances for purposes of denerving and neurolysis are used in the degeneratively diseased joints.

39. Application as claimed in one of claims 1 through 37, characterized in that a permeation enhancer, preferably dimethyl sulfoxide, is used in addition to the neurotoxic substances.

40. A method for treating joint pain, characterized in that a neurotoxic substance is injected into the intra-capsular region or into the joint's synovial pouch of the pain-afflicted joint.

41. Method for treating joint pain as claimed in claim 40, characterized in that the neurotoxic substance is dissolved in a bio-compatible solvent and in that preferably a liquid volume of 0.1 to 150 ml is injected into the intra-capsular region or into the joint synovial pouch of the pain-afflicted joint.

42. Method as claimed in either of claims 40 and 41, characterized in that the nociceptive nerve fibers are rendered pain-insensitive by the neurotoxic substance for at least 14 days, preferably at least 8 weeks.

43. Method as claimed in one of claims 40 through 42, characterized in that the neurotoxic substance is used at a concentration entailing neurolysis.